

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 10 of page 1 as follows:

This application is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 09/843,159 filed April 25, 2001, **now U.S. patent 6,887,675**, which application is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 09/696,668 filed October 25, 2000, **now U.S. patent 6,617,102**, which application is a continuation-in-part of application serial number 09/427,154 filed October 25, 1999, **now U.S. patent 6,589,725**, the disclosures of which applications are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 25 of page 14 as follows:

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention provides antisense oligonucleotides which find use as antagonists of TaHo activity. In a preferred embodiment, such antisense oligonucleotides are directed to the region in a TaHo nucleic acid intervening between the region encoding the SAM domain and the region encoding the PARP domain. Particularly preferred are antisense oligonucleotides having a nucleic acids sequence complementary to the nucleic acid sequence GTGGAACAGAGGGTGCTTCC **(SEQ ID NO:7)**. This is a preferred sequence for specific antisense targeting of TaHo as this sequence differs significantly from the nucleic acid sequence of the related tankyrase nucleic acid. As will be appreciated by those in the art, other TaHo nucleic acid sequence fragments that differ significantly from the sequence of tankyrase may be of use in the specific antisense targeting of TaHo. Alternatively, TaHo nucleic acid sequence fragments having high identity to tankyrase nucleic acid sequence fragments may be used to target both tankyrase and TaHo by antisense oligonucleotides.

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 36 of page 44 as follows:

A number of cyclin destruction boxes are known in the art, for example, cyclin A has a destruction box comprising the sequence RTVLGVIGD **(SEQ ID NO:13)**; the destruction box of cyclin B1 comprises the sequence RTALGDIGN **(SEQ ID NO:14)**. See Glotzer et al., Nature 349:132-138 (1991). Other destruction boxes are known as well: YMTVSIIDRFMQDSCVPKMLQLVGVT (rat

cyclin B; **SEQ ID NO:15**); KFRLQETMYMTVSIIDRFMQNSCVPKK (mouse cyclin B; **SEQ ID NO:16**); RAILIDWLIQVQMKFRLQETMYMTVS (mouse cyclin B1; **SEQ ID NO:17**); DRFLQAQLVCRKKLQWGITALLLASK (mouse cyclin B2; **SEQ ID NO:18**); and MSVLRGKLQLVGTAAMLL (mouse cyclin A2; **SEQ ID NO:19**).

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 9 of page 61 as follows:

Oligonucleotides complementary to the TaHo nucleic acid sequence fragment GTGGAACAGAGGGTGCTTCC (FIG. 8; **SEQ ID NO:7**) were transfected into A549 cells and Hela cells. These dominant negative oligonucleotides inhibited cell proliferation in both cell types, as depicted in, FIGS. 9). Further, an increase in the amount of such TaHo antisense oligonucleotide was inversely correlated with the amount of TaHo mRNA detected in these cells, and was further correlated with the degree of proliferation inhibition observed (FIG. 9).

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 15 of page 6 as follows:

FIG. 8 shows a schematic representation of TaHo protein, depicting the ankyrin repeat domain, the SAM domain, and the PARP domain. The figure demonstrates schematically the relative position of TaHo amino acid sequence encoded by TaHo nucleic acid sequence to which antisense oligonucleotide is directed. The figure shows the nucleic acid sequence in this region (**SEQ ID NO:5**), and compares it to tankyrase nucleic acid sequence in the corresponding region of the tankyrase gene (**SEQ ID NO:6**). Asterisks indicate identical nucleotides in both the TaHo and tankyrase sequence. Depicted in bold text, and referred to by the term "T11" is the sequence of the TaHo antisense oligonucleotide (**SEQ ID NO:7**).

Please amend the paragraph starting on line 9 of page 7 as follows:

FIG. 16 shows the sequence of TaHo-1 (**top; SEQ ID NO:3**) and TaHo-2 (**bottom; SEQ ID NO:4**). The figure further identifies the E and F residues that are substituted and the amino acid sequences that are deleted in TaHo protein variants set forth. Also indicated are the amino acid sequences comprising ankyrin repeats, the SAM domain, and the PARP domain.